

# **Native American Federal Employees Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **May 6, 2004**

**Board Members:** Ruby Pippenger, Chair, NOAA NWS NRC  
Crystal Wallace, Vice-Chair, USDA/NITC  
Robin K. Hatfield, Secretary, FDA  
Tonya Stonham, Alt-Secretary, DHS

**In Attendance:** Members (see end of report)

**Where:** USDA Facility, Beacon Street, Kansas City, MO

#### **Opening and Minutes:**

Ruby Pippenger called the meeting to order. Introductions were made all around. April 2004 meeting minutes were accepted with change.

#### **FEB Business:**

**Event Announcement:** The dedication ceremony for the American Indian Records Repository in Lenexa, KS is on the 14 May 2004. Facilitators are needed for the opening, and an RSVP is required.

**Quarterly Joint Diversity Council Meeting:** The next quarterly joint diversity council meeting is scheduled for 19 May 2004, at the Hong Kong Buffet in Blue Ridge Mall. The host council is FAPAC.

**Unity Day:** For this year's Unity Day, there will NOT be any break-out groups with the specific focus of cultural training. This year's program will focus on management training to address diversity in the workplace.

Topics to be addressed are:

- No Fear Act
- Stereotyping
- Cultural Reactions

and -History of Diversity

There will be tables to provide cultural information. Volunteers are needed to register and set up the displays, flags and banners before the beginning of the program. Flyers need to be made to include with handouts.

**Day of Caring 2004:** The Day of Caring Kick-Off is scheduled for 10 June 2004. 26 June 2004 is the Day of Caring. Please inform NAFEC if you are participating and what volunteer projects you will be involved in.

**MLK Celebration January 2005:** FEB is already planning for MLK Day 2005. Volunteers are needed.

**Woman's History Essay Contest 2005:** Volunteers are needed for next year's essay contest.

**Employees' Recognition Program:** Linda Day attended the program. Both federal and state employees were recognized for outstanding service above and beyond their normal duties.

For further information regarding the Kansas City Federal Executive Board's schedule of events, consult the KCFEB website [kcfeb.gsa.gov](http://kcfeb.gsa.gov)

#### **NAFEC Business:**

**Elections:** It is time to start thinking about the upcoming council elections. The election of officers will occur for September 2004, and a formal oath of office is slated to take place during the Lunch and Learn in November 2004.

**Lunch and Learn:** A complete package consisting of the program, the budget, meals to be provided, etc... should be assembled and ready for presentation by August. Responsibilities have been delegated to Crystal Wallace and Larry Thompson.

#### **Haskell Indian Nations University:**

**Commencement:** The HINU annual "Spring Commencement Pow Wow" took place the weekend of 14-16 May 2004.

Commencement was on 14 May 2004. Congratulations to NAFEC member Joe Gray for completing his degree!

**Meteorology Program Development:** Jesse James reported that the National Weather Service is working with Dr. Tom Dixon (HINU Department of Environmental Sciences) to develop a meteorology program.

#### **Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE):**

SAIGE members are reminded that membership dues are payable during October. Retired American Indian federal employees are invited to join. If you are aware of any retirees that may be eligible please advise them to contact one of the board members or refer to the website. SAIGE items are available for sale on the SAIGE website. Please visit the website – it is available at their temporary location at <http://www.aipc.osmre.gov/SAIGE/home.htm>. Many of our NAFEC members are members of SAIGE, if you wish to join SAIGE please contact Jesse James or Les Tate <mailto:ltate@hiwaay.net> – website url: <http://www.aipc.osmre.gov/SAIGE>

### **Heart of America Indian Center (HAIC):**

**New Council:** HAIC has elected new council members. They are: Flo NoEar - Chair, Bob Prue - Vice Chair, Tom Brandon - Treasurer, Ed Smith - Secretary, Marilyn Simmons, Sam St. Pierre, Maria Crawford, Kenneth Dagnett, Bill Mays, Neil Stallings

**Youth Camp:** HAIC will have a Summer Youth Camp 12-16 June 2004, at Lake Jacomo for youth 5 to 13 years of age. Contact **Paula Buzzard (816) 421-8678** for enrollment and additional information. Physicals were provided on 11 May 2004.

**Auction:** HAIC held a benefit auction Saturday, May 1, 2004. The auction netted \$800 for the center.

If you are interesting in volunteering at the HAIC or would like to donate, please contact the HAIC (816) 421-7608 or contact Carolyn King <mailto:ckinghaic@aol.com>.

### **Miscellaneous and Member Activities:**

**Kansas City Symposium:** The date for the Kansas City Symposium has been pushed forward to a later date. The purpose of the symposium is to have a joint meeting of the minds consisting of federal, regional, state, and municipal representatives to address the concerns of the Kansas City Indian community.

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual American Indian/ Alaskan Native National Childcare Conference:** Les Thierolf (HHS) attended the conference in Phoenix, AZ. The conference was a joint meeting between tribal leaders and the Indian Health Service. This year's theme was "Good Start, Grow Smart."

**National Congress of the American Indian:** The annual convention will be held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL 10-15 October 2004. For more information on NCAI events consult the following link - [http://www.ncai.org/main/pages/national\\_calendar/ncai\\_events.asp](http://www.ncai.org/main/pages/national_calendar/ncai_events.asp)

**"Women Are Sacred":** Advocacy for Native Women Who Have Been Raped will hold a workshop in Kansas City, MO, June 13, 2004. For more information on registration fee and training location contact the Sacred Circle 1-877-RED-ROAD (733-7623) or (605) 341-2050.

### **Member Attendees:**

Bays, Sheila	DHS
Brown, Paul	IRS
Day, Linda C	USPS
Hatfield, Robin K.	FDA
James, Jesse	NOAA
Ladage, Brenda Lee	GSA
Mathias, Kathrin	VA
Pippenger, Ruby	NOAA
Thierolf, Les	DHHS
Thompson, Larry	USDA-RMA
Wallace, Crystal	NITC-USDA